Riding the Digital Explosion

Brewster Kahle Sept 20, 1995 GILS Conference

Internet Evolution on Steroids

♦ 1990 Messaging (mail, netnews)

♦ 1991 Db systems (WAIS)

♦ 1993 Hypertext & Db (Web)

 but wanted searchable archives

but wanted browsing

but wanted richer presentation

but wanted programmable UI

but...

Constant need: Access to data from multiple systems

The Future of Information Technology

- ♦ Digital
- **♦ Personal**
- **OUbiquitous**
- OMultimedia: text->video

Communications Revolution: Digital Data

- ♦ Today the Internet: 56kb-1mb/sec
- ♦ Tomorrow:
 - Cable: 100stet/sec
 - CamCorders: 100kb/sec
 - Safellite Dishes gb/sec

Computer Revolution

- ♦ Today: desktop workstations, super mainframes
- ♦ Tomorrow: ubiquitous communications

Data Revolution

- ♦ Today: newspapers, 100 channels of TV
- ♦ Tomorrow: merging TV, Telephone, and Databases
- O Everyone is a publisher

Making sense of it all

- ♦ Internal coordination
- ♦ Using external sources: standards
 standards standards

Coming Problems

- ♦ Proprietary vs. open systems
- ♦ Infotainment -> Productivity tool
 - -Cross server navigation: 52,000 is too many
 - -Personalization
 - -Packaged delivery

GILS' Solution

- ♦ Put the government info behind the open systems.
- ♦ Don't invest in User Interface: make gov. databases available to all
- ♦ Post it once: HITTP, Gopher, Z39.50, Fax etc. from one DB
- ♦ Enable Active Clients: Towards
 Agents

Interoperability with other systems

- ♦ Web, Java...
- ♦ Online Services: AOL, Microsoft Network, etc.
- ♦ Lotus notes
- ♦ Cable systems